

AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

The specification is amended as shown on the following pages entitled "AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION".

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

The claims are amended as indicated in the following pages under the heading "LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS". Cancellation of any claims is made without prejudice or disclaimer and all rights are reserved to the original disclosed and claimed subject matter. The list of claims includes the status of each claim in the application and any amendments presented in this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

The paragraph spanning pages 23 and 24 is amended to read:

An example of this latter possibility is represented in figures 38 and 39, whereby strip-shaped holders 4 are laid on an underlayer 66, and whereby the panels 2 are systematically snapped-in on it. The holders 4 hereby each have several pairs of fixing parts 10-12 which are made analogous to the above-described fixing parts, whereas the panels 2 have profiles 6 and 7 on their edges which are also analogous to the profiles of the above-described panels 2. It is clear that thus is obtained a floor covering which makes it possible to remove a panel from any place whatsoever and to put it back and/or to replace it. It should be noted that the space between the panels 2, which is required to be able to laterally move the panels 2 against the force of the fixing means, can possibly be restricted to a minimum, so that also joints which are visible on the surface of the panel 2 are minimal. Possibly, the fixing parts which co-operate with the edge 6 as well as with the edge 7 can be made such that they can be laterally moved in a flexible manner, such that when a panel is removed, several panels lying next to one another can be laterally pushed aside. This makes it possible for the panels 2 to mesh relatively far, for example with their tongue 35 and groove 36, or with other overlapping parts, whereas the mutual clearance between two successive panels 2 can be kept relatively small. When a panel 2 is disassembled, this panel 2 can then be shifted together with several adjacent panels, so that the clearances of the different panels cumulate, and a sufficiently large shift can be realised on the place of the panel 2 to be removed to allow for a disconnection.